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Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for
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on April 25, 2002

Signature: Linda McSweeney

Re: Applicant(s): HIROYUKI HIGUCHI
Serial No. 10/039,345
Filing Date: January 4, 2002
For: STEAM PRESSURE REDUCING AND CONDITIONING VALVE
Docket No.: 52643-00350USPT

Dear Sir:

Transmitted for filing with the Patent and Trademark Office are the following documents for the
above-referenced patent application:

1. Information Disclosure Statement
2. Form PTO-1449
3. References A1-A72, B1-B3 and C1-C6
4. Postcard acknowledgment

Please address all communications related to this to:

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In the event there is an under or over payment, please debit or credit our Deposit Account #10-0447. This
letter is being filed in duplicate to facilitate processing.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell N. Rippamonti

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Registration No. 39,521

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MAY 7 2002
TC 1700



Serial No. 10/039,345
Attorney Docket No. 52643-00350USPT
Client Ref. MN-P121130N2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hiroyuki Higuchi) Unit: 1724
Serial No.: 10/039,345) Examiner: Unknown
Filed: January 4, 2002)
For: STEAM PRESSURE REDUCING AND CONDITIONING VALVE

To the Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Services addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

on April 25, 2002

Signature: *Linda McSweeney*

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

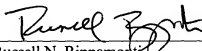
In accordance with Applicant's duty under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 1.97, Applicant hereby submits the attached form PTO-1449 (modified) which lists art cited. The art listed therein, while of some relevance, is not necessarily considered to teach or suggest any aspect of the invention described and claimed in the above-identified patent application. This statement is also not to be construed as a representation that a search has, or has not, been conducted or that no better art exists. Rather, this statement discloses only the best art of which the Applicant is aware.

In considering the art set forth below, it may be noted by the Examiner that certain of the references may contain markings, underlinings or other notations. These markings or notations

are not to be construed as drawing the Examiner's attention either to selected parts or away from other parts of the references. Any such markings were either present on the copies of the references obtained by Applicant, or were made thereon during the study of the references by the Applicant and/or their attorneys.

This information disclosure statement is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(b)(3) before the mailing of a first office action. Applicant believes no fee is due but if this is incorrect and a fee is owed the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and may be required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97 OR credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 10-0447. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider each of the cited references, indicate such consideration by initialing each reference on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) and return a copy of the same with the next communication to the Applicant. For the convenience of the Examiner in considering the references, copies of the cited references are enclosed with this communication.

Respectfully submitted,



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